

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /067 W

----- 024185

R 171906Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4691

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 9128

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AR, US

SUBJ: ORFILA ACCUSED OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS BY UCR CONGRESSMAN

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR ORFILA CHARGED WITH CONFLICT OF INTERESTS. ORFILA HAS REFUSED TO RESPOND TO CHARGES. END SUMMARY.

2. UCR CONGRESSMAN NICOLAS SALVADOR OF BUENOS AIRES HAS ASKED THAT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT AMBASSADOR ORFILA'S POSSIBLE TIES WITH "MAJOR US FIRMS". ACCORDING TO SALVADOR, ORFILA PARTICIPATED IN THE FOUNDING OF A CONSORTIUM MADE UP OF US FIRMS ELECTROWATT, MCCARTHY, STRATTON AND ABBOTT: AND THE ARGENTINE FIRMS CONSULT-LATIN AND CONSULBAIRES.

3. SALVADOR ALSO CALLS UPON THE GOA TO INVESTIGATE ORFILA'S ROLE IN THE YACYRETA-APIPE AGREEMENT AND TO CONFIRM OR DENY THE CLAIM THAT THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO SPEND 25 TO 30 MILLION DOLLARS FOR CONSULTING FEES ON THE DAM PROJECT.

4. COMMENT: WHILE SALVADOR DOES NOT STATE THAT THERE IS A LINK BETWEEN ORFILA'S TIES TO THE FIRMS AND ORFILA'S ROLE IN YACYRETA-APIPE, THE INSINUATION IS CLEAR. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY FILES SOME OF THE FIRMS ARE ACTIVE IN THE HYDROELECGRIC FIELD. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT VIGNES MAY BE ASKED ABOUT THIS MATTER AT NEXT VISIT TO LOWER CHAMBER.

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5. AMBASSADOR ORFILA, IN WASHINGTON, IS QUOTED BY LA NACION

AS SAYING, "THAT CHARGES MADE AGAINST ME ARE NOT CONCRETE AND I
WILL NOT COMMENT ON THEM". ORFILA ADMITTED THAT HE HAS HAD A
LONG RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US FIRMS SALVADOR NAMED BUT SAID HE
FAILED TO SEE ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN HIMSELF AND SALVADOR'S
COMPLAINT ABOUT HIGH CONSULTING FEES FOR YACYRETA-APIPE.
KREBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AR, US, UCR, (ORFILA)
To: STATE
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